

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Steel Smelter and Foundry in Liuchou

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1. Repair and reconstruction of the steel smelter and foundry at Liuehou (109-16, 24-18), which was placed under the direct control of the Central and South China Area's Department of Industry in early November 1951, has been completed. The Department allocated one Soviet made Pei Shih (貝氏) steel smelting furnace² and various other equipment to this shop in mid-November and assigned two additional engineers and eight technicians there.
2. Steel production began in January 1952 at an increased rate. The Liuehou shop now has two steel smelting furnaces³ and two steel melting furnaces in operation. The shop employs a total of 150 workers assigned to six separate teams. It runs both day and night shifts and has a smelting capacity of approximately 40 tons of steel per month.
3. The steel produced by the Liuehou Steel Foundry has all been assigned by the Department of Industry for use in the 884 Arsenal in Liuehou, which is under the Central and South China Area's Ordnance Administration.

25X1A 1. Comment. Probably Department of Heavy Industry.

25X1A 2. Comment. Possibly Bessemer steel smelting furnace or Bessemer converter.

25X1A 3. Comment. Both steel smelting furnaces are Pei Shih Chien-hsing
Ping-lu (國民輸性平爐).

25X1A Comment. A literal translation of this Chinese term would be "Pei Shih open hearth furnace". "Pei Shih" again may mean "Bessemer," but it is to be noted that a Bessemer furnace and an open hearth furnace are not the same.

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